

Committee: <b>STANDARDS COMMITTEE</b>	Date: <b>16 February 2010</b>	Classification: <b>UNRESTRICTED</b>	Report No.	Agenda Item No.
Report Of: <b>Assistant Chief Executive (Legal Services)</b>		Title: <b>Ethical Standards Training</b>		
Originating Officer: <b>Isabella Freeman</b>		Wards Affected: <b>All</b>		

## 1. **SUMMARY**

- 1.1 This report informs Members of progress and the current position in relation to Member training relating to ethical standards issues.

## 2. **RECOMMENDATION**

- 2.1 Members are asked to consider and note the content of this report

## 3. **ETHICAL GOVERNANCE/STANDARDS TRAINING**

- 3.1 The Standards Committee is responsible for promoting high standards of conduct and specifically:

- Advising on the training of Councillors, co-opted Members and church, other faith and parent governor representatives on matters relating to the Members Code of Conduct.
- 3.2 The Committee last received a report on ethical standards related training on 20 January 2009 and this further report outlines the current position on progress with training in these areas:
- 3.3 **Understanding Planning and Planning Probity – 2 and 24 June 2009.** Annual mandatory training for members of the Development and Strategic Development Committees.
- 3.4 **Licensing – Code of Conduct and Best Practice – 2 June 2009.** Annual mandatory training for members of the Licensing Committee.
- 3.5 **Code of Conduct for Members –** All members have now been trained in group or 1:1 training sessions.
- 3.6 **Local Assessment of Complaints – 11 November 2009.** Cross borough training facilitated by external solicitors for councillors, officers and independent members from the participating authorities.
- 3.7 **Ethical Standards Self Assessment – June to September 2009.** All members completed a self assessment questionnaire and the outcomes were reported to the Standards Committee on 20 October 2009.

#### **4. COMMENTS OF THE CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER**

- 4.1 There are no immediate financial implications arising out of this report.

#### **5. CONCURRENT REPORT OF THE ASSISTANT CHIEF EXECUTIVE (LEGAL SERVICES)**

- 5.1 This report has been prepared by the Assistant Chief Executive (Legal Services) who is also the Council's Monitoring Officer and incorporates legal comments.

#### **6. RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS**

- 6.1 Ethical governance arrangements are essential to the operation and reputation of the Authority. The proposals contained in this report accord with recommendations of the Audit Commission for an integrated approach to ethical governance.

#### **7. ONE TOWER HAMLETS CONSIDERATIONS**

- 7.1 The training measures outlined in this report are important for ensuring that Members understand and comply with their responsibilities in

relation to ethical governance which is key to maintaining effective community leadership and confidence in local democracy.

**8. SAGE IMPLICATIONS**

- 8.1 This report has no immediate implications for the Council's policy of strategic action for a greener environment.

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**LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 2000 (SECTION 97)  
LIST OF "BACKGROUND PAPERS" USED IN THE PREPARATION OF THIS REPORT**

<b>Brief description of "background paper"</b>	<b>Tick if copy supplied for register</b>	<b>If not supplied, name and telephone number of holder</b>
Standards Committee file		Isabella Freeman 020 7364 4800